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FROM PLANS TO PROGRESS

183 Women-Led Enterprises Approved for Funding

Sixth IPEAC sitting advances enterprise proposals across Gbarpolu, Grand Cape Mount and Rural Montserrado

30-31 JULY 2026 | A LA LAGUNE, CONGO TOWN BACK ROAD

196	183	2,014
APPLICATIONS REVIEWED	APPROVED FOR FUNDING	PEOPLE EXPECTED TO BENEFIT

The Government of Liberia, through the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MGCSP), has completed the sixth sitting of the Economic Support and Livelihood Grant Independent Proposal Evaluation and Approval Committee (IPEAC) under the Liberia Women Empowerment Project (LWEP).

Over two days, the committee assessed business plans with a combined proposed cash value of US$565,000 - an important step in moving eligible women-led enterprises from proposal review toward grant agreement signing and investment.

A pathway forward for every applicant

Thirteen applications did not meet the requirements for grant award during this sitting. They were returned for correction and resubmission, with formal feedback and guidance to be provided.

Implemented by the Government of Liberia through MGCSP, with funding support from the World Bank.

RESULTS AT A GLANCE

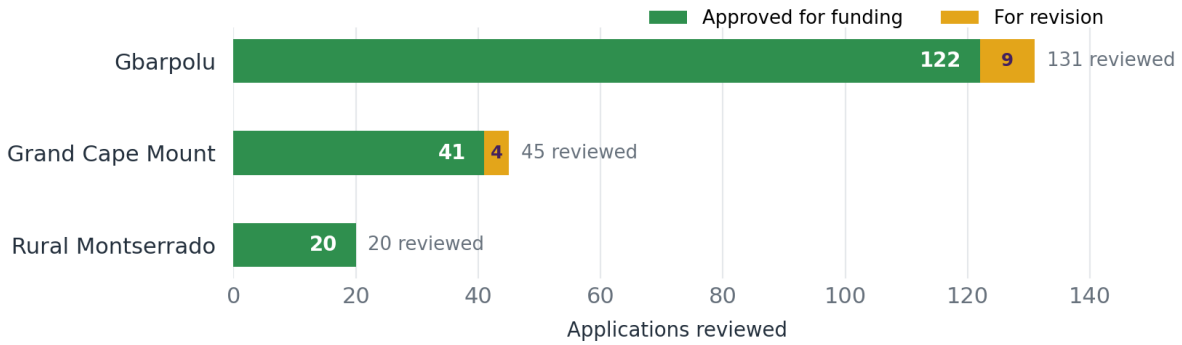
A Transparent Review for Women-led Growth

On 30-31 July 2026, IPEAC reviewed 196 business plans and applications from women-led enterprises across three project areas. The sitting applied a structured review process intended to uphold transparency, fairness and gender equity in grant selection.

Of the 196 applications, 183 - approximately 93% - met the requirements for grant award and were approved for funding. The remaining 13 were recommended for revision and will remain on a supported pathway toward correction and resubmission.

US$565K	93%	3
COMBINED PROPOSAL VALUE REVIEWED	OF APPLICATIONS APPROVED	COUNTIES / PROJECT AREAS

County outcomes



County totals: Gbarpolu - 131 reviewed, 122 approved, 9 for revision; Grand Cape Mount - 45 reviewed, 41 approved, 4 for revision; Rural Montserrado - 20 reviewed, all 20 approved.

Rural Montserrado recorded full approval

All 20 applications reviewed from Rural Montserrado met the requirements for grant award during the sixth sitting. Gbarpolu recorded the largest volume, with 131 applications reviewed.

Source: Detailed Approved Summary in the signed IPEAC sixth-sitting meeting record, 30-31 July 2026.

Who moved forward

The approved portfolio spans individual businesses, community savings groups and farmer-based organizations. Individual enterprises accounted for the largest share of approvals.

Application category	Reviewed	Approved	For revision
Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs)	50	44	6
Individual Enterprises (IEs)	135	130	5
Farmer-Based Organizations (FBOs)	11	9	2
TOTAL	**196**	**183**	**13**

Category totals account for all 196 applications reviewed.

> **Revision is not rejection**
> Applications recommended for revision will receive formal feedback and guidance. They may be corrected and resubmitted at the next IPEAC meeting until they meet the project requirements for grant award.

What the committee agreed

To accelerate project implementation and small-grant disbursement, IPEAC endorsed operational adjustments for eligible enterprises and groups, subject to approved project procedures and final grant agreements.

Eligible VSLAs

Group membership	Approved grant level
More than 100 members	US$20,000
50-99 members	US$15,000
31-49 members	US$10,000
Other qualified groups	US$8,000

Eligible individual enterprises

The committee endorsed a one-time disbursement approach guided by business readiness, job-creation potential and climate-smart integration. Priority considerations

include established shop-based enterprises not already supported under the current VSLA grant; Tier 2 support is capped at US$1,000.

The expected reach

The 183 approved applications are expected to benefit 2,014 people. Women account for 1,665 of the anticipated beneficiaries - approximately 83% - while 349 men are also expected to benefit through the supported enterprises and groups.

83%	1,665	349
FEMALE SHARE OF EXPECTED REACH	WOMEN EXPECTED TO BENEFIT	MEN EXPECTED TO BENEFIT

What happens next

1	**Grant agreement signing** The 183 approved women-led enterprise applications proceed to the grant agreement signing phase with MGCSP through Plan International Liberia, the Lead Service Provider.
2	**Feedback, correction and resubmission** The 13 applications recommended for revision receive formal feedback and guidance to support correction and resubmission at the next IPEAC meeting.
3	**One updated community listing** The official revised list of approved communities is shared with stakeholders to reduce double profiling and prevent co-creation in unapproved communities.

Why this matters

The grant pathway is designed to expand women entrepreneurs' access to productive capital and strengthen enterprises with the potential to support livelihoods, create jobs and integrate climate-smart business practices. The correction pathway also gives applicants a clear opportunity to address gaps instead of being left behind.

At the close of the sitting, IPEAC reaffirmed its commitment to transparency, fairness and gender equity throughout the selection process.

Fair review. Clear feedback. More opportunities for women-led enterprise.

For information or feedback, contact the Liberia Women Empowerment Project: 4433 | info.lwep@mogcsp.gov.lr | MGCSP, Capitol Bye-Pass, Monrovia.

Source: Economic Support and Livelihood Grant Independent Proposal Evaluation and Approval Committee (IPEAC), Sixth Sitting Meeting Record, 30-31 July 2026. Implemented under LWEP by the Government of Liberia through MGCSP, with funding support from the World Bank.